

Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Minerals and Mining Program
523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182
605 773-4201; Fax: 605 773-5286

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONDUCT
MINERAL EXPLORATION OPERATION
(Excluding Uranium)**

Pursuant to SDCL 45-6C

RECEIVED
JUL 14 2026
MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

Operator's name:

DTRC LLC

Mailing Address:

**106 Glendale Drive, Suite A
Lead, South Dakota 57754**

Telephone:

605.717.2540

Resident agent (if out-of-state corporation):

Amy Koenig

Resident agent address:

**106 Glendale Drive, Suite A
Lead, South Dakota 57754**

Telephone:

605.717.2540

Legal description of area to be explored by Section, Township, and Range:

Portions of Sections 7 in T5N, R3E and 18 in T5N, R3E

County:

Lawrence

Give a brief description of the type of exploration to be conducted. Include a list of all minerals to be explored and a description of methods (e.g. drill rig type, number of holes to be drilled, number of drill pads to be constructed, proposed depth for each test hole, length of existing access roads and/or new access road construction).

DTRC LLC will explore potential hard-rock gold deposits within the proposed project area. It is anticipated that exploration test hole drilling will be completed using skid-mounted core and/or truck-mounted or track-mounted reverse circulation drilling methods/drill rigs. The project would include up to 31 new exploration test hole drill pad sites (drill pads). There will be 1564 feet of new drill trail development proposed as part of this project on previously undisturbed lands. There will be approximately 284ft of existing trails utilized within the project area from existing EXNIs permitted by DTRC LLC. There are approximately 5,245 feet of existing roads that are on existing EXNIs permitted by DTRC LLC. Approximately 5,282 feet of new road development is proposed as part of this project. This network of roads would be utilized for access to the proposed drill pads in the project area. Exploration test holes will be drilled from these 31 drill pads at both azimuth and vertical, to depths of up to approximately 10,000 feet, with the possibility of multiple (up to 20) exploration test holes drilled from each drill pad. The drill pads that are constructed will measure approximately 200 ft x 200 ft (approximately 0.92 acres).

Date exploration will commence:

Immediately following approval of this EXNI.

What legal authority does the operator have to conduct exploration on the above-described land? Include a copy if available.

☒ Deed ☐ Lease ☐ US Forest Service Permit ☐ Pending US Forest Service Permit ☒ Other

Will the operator conduct uranium exploration? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, a permit pursuant to SDCL 45-6D must be obtained.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please reference SDCL 45-6C. This Notice of Intent must be accompanied by:

1. A plan of reclamation pursuant to Section 8.
2. A topographic map pursuant to Section 9.
3. A fee of \$250 payable to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources pursuant to Section 17.
4. A surety in an amount to be determined by the department pursuant to Section 19.
5. Any written landowner consultations giving alternative preferences for the reclamation of the affected land pursuant to Section 16.

Applicant affirms that the surface owner has been notified of the proposed mineral development and that said surface owner is aware of his rights to compensation for damages to property pursuant to SDCL 45-5A. Applicant hereby affirms that the mineral exploration will be conducted pursuant and subject to the provisions of SDCL 45-6C, and all regulations promulgated thereunder, that he will grant access to the SD Board of Minerals and Environment or its agents to the area under notice from the date of the notice and thereafter to assure compliance with the provisions of SDCL 45-6C.

I declare and affirm under the penalties of perjury that this claim (petition, application, information) has been examined by me, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, is in all things true and correct.

01 July 2026

Signature _____ Date: _____

Title: VP of Operations

STATE OF South Dakota

COUNTY OF Lawrence

On this 01 day of July, 2026, before me personally appeared

Mark Rantapaa, who acknowledged himself to be the VP of Operations

for DTRC LLC and that he is authorized to execute the Notice of Intent for the
(Operator)
purposes contained therein.

Notary Public _____ My Commission Expires: _____

SEAL

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

DATE APPROVED: BOND AMOUNT: EXNI NUMBER:

Chairman, SD Board of Minerals & Environment

In preparing this reclamation plan, please address each item in detail, referencing SDCL 45-6C-8 and 45-6D-9. Please refer to the reclamation standards outlined in SDCL 45-6C-27 through 45-6C-34, SDCL 45-6D-33 through 45-6D-39, and the state's hole plugging regulations as detailed in ARSD 74:11.

1. Describe the type of reclamation the operator proposes to achieve in the reclamation of the affected land.

DTRC LLC and its exploration drilling contractors strive to minimize the potential surface impacts of the exploration drilling program. The exploration drilling operations would include the removal of existing growth media (topsoil) when feasible, followed by stockpiling, reshaping, and interim reseeding of the topsoil, which would then be utilized for future reclamation activities at the project site. Topsoil stockpiles would be clearly identified and appropriately marked. Best Management Practices (BMPs) for potential sedimentation and erosion control would be implemented at the project site for areas of new disturbance. These BMPs (e.g., ditches, sumps, berms, wattles, straw bales, or silt fences) at the potentially affected area pursuant to SDCL 45-6C-32. Exploration drill pad sump (sumps) would be located on the uphill side of the exploration drill pad site when feasible, and construction may include installation of a liner system, if needed to retain liquids at the drill pad site. Safety fencing would be implemented around the sumps for safety purposes and to prevent the potential of small wildlife from entering the sumps. In addition, means will be implemented in the sump to allow any wildlife to exit from the sump if needed. Areas where exploration drilling pads (up to 31 [approximately 28.5 acres]) would be constructed will be reclaimed following completion of exploration drilling activities. For exploration drilling activities on new and existing roads, no reclamation activities would occur on the new roads (up to approximately 5,282 feet [approximately 1.9 acres]) and existing roads (up to approximately 5,245 feet [approximately 1.9 acres]). There will be approximately 1,564 feet (0.6 acres) of new trails and approximately 284 feet (0.1 acres) of existing trails utilized for exploration activities. Exploration drill pads would also be accessed for the project, utilizing approximately 5,245 feet (approximately 1.9 acres) from roads permitted under existing EXNI permits held by DTRC LLC in the project area. The newly disturbed area of the exploration drill pads would be recontoured and regraded as necessary, the exploration drill pad sump liner system (if installed) would be folded in place and punctured, and then the entire sump area would be backfilled with native materials to the area. The entire exploration drill pad area, including the sump area, would be reclaimed. Reclamation activities would include recontouring, regrading, placement of topsoil, and seeding with reclamation seed mixture. For areas where exploration drill pad construction is necessary, the newly disturbed affected area would be regraded to approximate original contours, where feasible, using native materials to the area. Once these regrading activities are completed, the area of the exploration drill pads will be reclaimed. Reclamation of one site would be conducted concurrently while exploration drilling activities continue at another site, when feasible and pending weather conditions. The post-mining land used for the exploration project area would be woodland grazing, which would be accomplished by reclaiming it to an open canopy area within the forested surroundings.

2. Provide a proposed timetable for seeding and replanting, indicating when and how the reclamation plan will be implemented. Such timetable shall be developed in consultation with the County District Conservationist as to the nature of the soils and native vegetation in the proposed operation. These recommendations shall be followed, if any are provided, and copies of all correspondence shall be provided to the Department.

Reclamation seeding will take place after recontouring and regrading of disturbed areas are completed. Seedings would be done on a clean, semi-smooth, weed-free seedbed with effective seeding methods. DTRC LLC would control potential noxious weeds on newly disturbed areas impacted by exploration drilling activities throughout operations of the project and for 1-year post-reclamation. Weeds would be clipped and/or sprayed by a licensed applicator before they compete with the seeding for moisture and light. All reclamation processes, seed mixtures, seasonal constraints, and timing and guidance will be based on South Dakota NRCS Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Critical Area Planting Code 342 as suggested by the Lawrence County Conservation District and the local NRCS requirements and recommendations, per 45-6C-16; Consultation with surface owner-Preferences for reclamation and travel restrictions, as well as with the conservation district and NRCS offices. Fertilizer would be applied as necessary. Reseeding of the reclaimed sites would be conducted if the initial reclamation is not successful.

The seed mixture for the reseeding of exploration drill pad sites and exploration access roads/trails consists of local native species and was developed based on recommendations following consultation with the local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office. Consultation with NRCS was completed on 17 June 2026 for this project. Previously recommended reclamation seed mixtures approved for DTRC LLC's existing Exploration Notice of Intent (EXNIs) are again recommended as the seed mixture for this project based on that consultation. A copy of the NRCS-recommended reclamation seed mixture is attached to this EXNI.

3. Describe how the reclamation plan will rehabilitate the affected land.

The goal of the reclamation plan is to rehabilitate and restore the newly affected lands to woodland grazing habitat. Planting of grasses would control erosion and protect the topsoil. Numerous forb and shrub species are expected to volunteer in the reclaimed areas because ground disturbance associated with exploration activities would be limited compared to the surrounding areas of vegetation. A grass, forb, shrub, and subshrub community is expected to develop as reclamation matures, which would support woodland grazing and provide an edge effect to support the wildlife in the area

4. Describe the anticipated temporary and permanent plugging and capping procedures to be used. Please refer to SDCL 45-6C-28 through 45-6C-30, SDCL 45-6D-33 through 45-6D-35, and the state's hole plugging regulations as detailed in ARSD 74:11.

At a minimum, DTRC LLC commits to following all South Dakota laws and statutes concerning hole plugging and abandonment, and alternatively would execute a full cement grout where needed, such as any instance where aquifer cross-contamination is feasible. All exploration drill holes would be plugged in accordance with ARSD 74:11:08 and SDCL 45-6C-28 through 45-6C-30. Additionally, DTRC LLC would utilize, if required, the *General Alternate Plugging Plan* that was submitted on 11 August 2022 to DANR and approved by DANR on 05 October 2022 for all DTRC LLC EXNI permits. The drill holes may penetrate the Deadwood Formation and the Precambrian, which are water-bearing units or aquifers in the Black Hills. If an aquifer is penetrated, the exploration drill holes will be plugged from bottom to top using bentonite grout, which complies with the requirements of ARSD 74:11:08:05 and ARSD 74:11:08:05:01 (i.e., requirements for plugging exploration drill holes that penetrate single unconfined aquifers and confined or multiple aquifers). In the event that a confined aquifer is penetrated, the weight of the bentonite grout column would be sufficient to overcome formation pressure, or the hole would be plugged using cement grout. Records regarding aquifers encountered during drilling and plugging methods used would be retained for each exploration hole, and those records would be provided to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) upon request. All exploration drill holes will be plugged immediately upon completion while the drill rig is still on the exploration drill pad. If a drill hole needs to remain open for more than 30 days, DTRC LLC will apply for an alternate plugging schedule to temporarily keep the hole open.

5. Provide the estimated cost of implementing and completing the proposed reclamation, and the estimated cost of plugging and sealing each test hole.

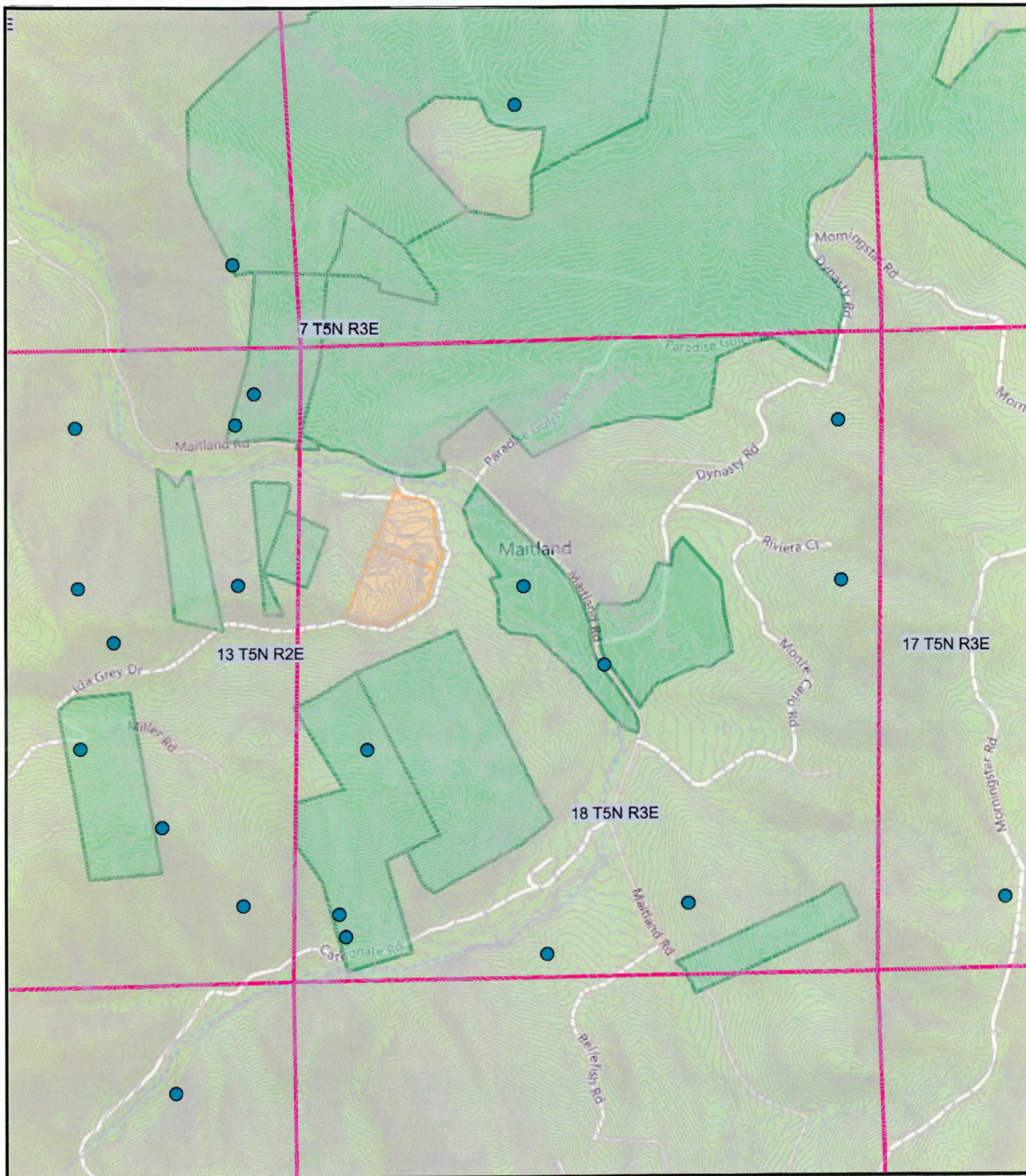
Reclamation of each drill pad is estimated to cost approximately \$1,000. Reclamation of exploration access roads and trails is expected to cost approximately \$5,000 per linear mile. Plugging and sealing drill holes is estimated to cost \$1,000 per hole. DTRC LLC has a statewide surety bond of \$100,000 in place with the State of South Dakota in lieu of drill program-specific surety bonds (SDCL 45-6C-19).

I declare and affirm under the penalties of perjury that this claim (petition, application, information) has been examined by me, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, is in all things true and correct.

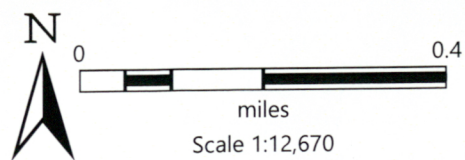
Signature

Date: 01 July, 2026

Title: VP of Operations



Maitland VI Drill Program



- DTRC LLC: Previous EXNI
- DTRC LLC
- Located Well
- 10 ft Contour

RECEIVED

JUL 14 2026

MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

Topo-Basic

Date: 07/13/2026
Author: Taylor Ballert



DAKOTA GOLD